WHAT IS CLAIMED:

1. An isolated polynucleotide selected from the group consisting of:

(a) a polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2,

(b) a polynucleotide which is complementary to the polynucleotide of (a), and

(c) a polynucleotide that hybridizes with a polynucleotide of (a) or (b) under stringent conditions.

2. The polynucleotide of claim 1 comprising the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

3. A polynucleotide that is an expression vector comprising a polynucleotide of claim 1.

4. A host cell comprising the expression vector of claim 3.

5. A process for expressing a MraY protein of *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* in a recombinant host cell, comprising:

(a) transforming a suitable host cell with an expression vector of claim 3; and

(b) culturing the host cell of step (a) in conditions under which allow expression of the MraY protein from said expression vector.

6. cDNA selected from the group consisting of:

(a) a polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2,

(b) a polynucleotide which is complementary to the polynucleotide of (a), and

(c) a polynucleotide that hybridizes with a polynucleotide of (a) or (b) under stringent conditions.

7. cDNA in accordance with claim 6 comprising the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

8. An expression vector comprising the cDNA of claim 7.

9. A host cell comprising the expression vector of claim 8.

10. A process for expressing a MraY protein of *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* in a recombinant host cell, comprising:

(a) transforming a suitable host cell with an expression vector of claim 8; and

(b) culturing the host cell of step (a) in conditions under which allow expression of the MraY protein from said expression vector.

11. A probe for the detection of polynucleotides encoding *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* MraY protein, comprising at least 25 nucleotides of SEQ ID NO:1.

12. A probe in accordance with claim 11 selected from the group consisting of:

(a) a probe comprising a nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:3; and

(b) a probe comprising a nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:4.

13. A primer for the detection of polynucleotides encoding *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* MraY protein, comprising at least 25 nucleotides of SEQ ID NO:1.

14. A primer in accordance with claim 13 selected from the group consisting of:

(a) a primer comprising a nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:3; and

(b) a primer comprising a nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:4.

15. An isolated polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

16. A cellular extract comprising the polypeptide of claim 15.